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**Marc W. Banks**

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January 28, 2002

Renata Hesse  
Trial Attorney  
Antitrust Division  
Department of Justice  
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse,

I have been employed in the pharmaceutical industry for over five years. My industry and personal livelihood depends upon my employer's research and development capabilities and its dedication to constant innovation in the treatment of a variety of human ills.

The computer and technology industry is no different. In fact, one could argue that no other industry in the world is as co-dependent and entwined with other industries as is the computer and technology field. Countless other industries rely on technological innovations to improve their own products and processes.

For this reason, I have closely watched the progress of the Microsoft lawsuit. While I'm not completely familiar with all the intricate details of the suit, I understand the major issues involved. And yes, I agree it is important for there to be continued competition in the computer industry in order to foster even more innovation. I am not convinced, however, that a strong case was made against Microsoft in the first place.

That being said, if news reports are to be believed, there seems to me to be a fair settlement before you for consideration. I urge you to accept the settlement and send a message that innovation is too important to be stifled in America.

Sincerely,



Marc Banks  
Territory Business Manager